

Pipeline Advisory Committee
Minutes of 12-18-2007

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

Attendance; W. Norton, L. Freeman, R. Daniel, A. Haible, K. Ogrodnik, P. McGovern, and K. Eiane

Minutes approved as written and will be forwarded to Linda Strickland.

Old Business

Len discussed the letter from E. Lyman regarding the scraper pit on her property, saying she hopes the pit will be removed along with the pipes. No action is required by this committee. Kristi acknowledged sending Ms. Lyman a response from the town noting she had forwarded the letter to the committee.

Recapping correspondence with our Congressional delegation:

- Sen. Collin's letter of Nov 9, 2007 confirmed money was being budgeted for pipeline removal. The Senator indicated a joint letter will be forthcoming from DLA and the Navy.
- Brian Whitney of Senator Snowe's office forwarded a tentative schedule for removal of the pipes. According to that draft, tentative schedule detailed studies and necessary permits could begin in March 2008. These studies would be completed around October 2008. In November 2008, or thereabouts, a request for proposals would be sent out to select a contractor to pull the pipes and restore the land. That contractor could start April 2009. The committee noted with pleasure that the bureaucracy has laid out a timeline.
- Snow and Collins announced on November 30, 2007 the Navy has set received \$9.4 million for removal of the pipeline. This made front page news! The transfer of \$9.4 million from DLA to the Navy is confirmed according to Snow and Collins.

December 12, 2007, Selectman Alexander, Kristi and Len met with J. Duddy who heads up Collin's Portland office. They asked if the \$9.4 million could ever be diverted. Ms. Duddy will get back to Kristi on that. The press release by Snow and Collins would be difficult to renege as it has been made public. We are fortunate to have B. Whitney, who has carried the ball, and we now have J. Duddy. The committee would like to have an opportunity to help review the joint DLA/Navy letter to the town. Ms. Duddy will look into that possibility also.

Momentum continues! Op-Ed by Len and Walter in the Times Record, December 14. Thanks to Len and Walter for such a concise, well written piece!" A great example of Government working at its best "say's Len!

New Business

Len provided a draft of the Committee report for the Annual Town Report. The draft was reviewed and a motion was made to approve it while allowing the co-chairs to bring it up to date as events unfold. The motion was seconded and passed.

Kay wants us to begin to think about how transfers will take place and easements returned. We prefer the Navy to transfer back the easements directly to the property owners without involving the town. Legal advice will be needed, states Kay, so the Town will not get pulled into any liability.

The committee should consider what role it may play once removal of the pipes is assured but before the job is completed.

Kay expressed her thanks to Len, Walter and Amy for their expertise and all their hard work. The rest of us thank them as well.

NEXT MEETING

The Chair and Co-Chair will call for the next meeting when one is required.

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM